



U.S. Department of Justice

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603/225-1552

MEDIA RELEASE
For Immediate Release
August 19, 2003

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FORMER PHARMACIST INDICTED FOR DRUG TRAFFICKING

CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE: United States Attorney Tom Colantuono and Colonel Gary M. Sloper, Director of New Hampshire State Police, announce the August 19, 2003 indictment of Michael J. Santoro, formerly of Derry, NH, D.O.B. 5/17/78. According to the indictment, at the time of the offense in September, 2002, Mr. Santoro was a New Hampshire licensed pharmacist. He has been charged with possessing with intent to distribute various Schedule II and III narcotic controlled substances, including Hydrocodone, Oxycodone and Methylphenidate, outside of the scope of his professional practice and not for legitimate medical purposes, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Section 841(a)(1). Based upon the amounts of controlled substances found in his possession, Santoro faces a maximum sentence of 20 years imprisonment.

At his initial appearance in Federal District Court in Concord, NH, Judge Joseph A. DiClerico released Santoro pending trial under behavioral conditions to be monitored by the U.S. Department of probation. Defendant was released pending trial by U.S. District Court Judge Joseph A. Di Clerico.

The case was investigated by the New Hampshire State Police and is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Aixia Maldonado-Quiñones.

UNITED STATES ATTORNEY COLANTUONO REMINDS THE PUBLIC THAT AN INDICTMENT IS ONLY AN ALLEGATION AND NOT PROOF OF CRIMINAL CONDUCT. AS IN ALL CASES, EACH DEFENDANT IS PRESUMED INNOCENT UNTIL PROVEN GUILTY BEYOND A REASONABLE DOUBT.